

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1, 3, 5-10, 12, 15, 16, 18-21, 23, and 24 have been amended. Basis for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, claims and drawings as originally filed.

RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The Examiner has required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of the following inventions:

- I. Claims 1-4, drawn to floating pressure tube arrangement, classified in class 188, subclass 315.
- II. Claims 5-9, drawn to a two-piece piston rod, classified in class 188, subclass 322.22.
- III. Claims 10-27, drawn to biasing member, classified in class 188, subclass 276.

Applicant, without traverse, respectfully requests the Examiner to proceed with Invention I defined by Claims 1-4 and drawn to a floating pressure tube arrangement. In addition, independent Claims 5, 10, 16 and 24 have been amended to now be dependent on Claim 1. Thus, Applicant now believes that all pending Claims 1-27 read on Invention I.

ELECTION OF SPECIES

The Examiner has required an election of species pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of the following patentably distinct species:

- A. The species principally illustrated in Figure 6;
- B. The species principally illustrated in Figure 7;
- C. The species principally illustrated in Figure 8;
- D. The species principally illustrated in Figure 9;
- E. The species principally illustrated in Figure 10;
- F. The species principally illustrated in Figure 11;
- G. The species principally illustrated in Figure 12;
- H. The species principally illustrated in Figure 13;
- I. The species principally illustrated in Figure 14;
- J. The species principally illustrated in Figure 15;
- K. The species principally illustrated in Figure 16;
- L. The species principally illustrated in Figure 17;
- M. The species principally illustrated in Figure 18; and,
- N. The species principally illustrated in Figure 19.

Applicants, without traverse, respectfully request the Examiner to proceed with Species A principally illustrated in Figure 6. Applicant believes that Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11 and 14 read on the elected species. Applicant requests that the non-elected Claims be held in abeyance for possible rejoinder and/or further prosecution in future divisional and/or continuation applications.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 30, 2004

By: 

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